## REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-8, and 21-34 are pending in the present application. Claims 2, 3, and 9-20 were canceled; claim 1 was amended; and claims 21-34 were added. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Amendments were made to the specification to add the application number for a related co-pending application. No new matter has been added by any of the amendments to the specification.

## I.    Specification

The examiner has objected to the specification because there is a missing application number for a related co-pending application. Appropriate amendment to the specification has been made thereby correcting this informality.

## II.    35 U.S.C. § 102, Anticipation

The examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 7-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Jones et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0188841 (Jones). Amendments have been made to claim 1 and claims 9-20 have been cancelled thereby rendering this rejection moot.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the following element:

> the central knowledge management server, in response to a request for an asset from the user, provides an asset list comprising at least one digital asset that has criteria matching criteria specified by the user and wherein at least one of the digital assets in the asset list includes an asset characteristic

Neither Jones et al., nor Levy et al. teach or suggest, either individually or in combination, that the digital asset provided by the central server includes an asset characteristic. The asset characteristic may be, for example, as recited in claim 21, any one of a thumbnail a digital asset, a size of the digital asset, the location of the digital asset, the internal chargeback costs of the digital asset, and an ownership indicia for the digital asset. Of course, the asset characteristic of claim 1 is not limited to the above list

but may include other characteristics as well. Therefore, since this element of claim 1 is not found in either Jones et al. or Levy et al., the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Jones et al. has been overcome.

Since claims 4-8 depend from claim 1, the same distinctions between Jones et al. and the claimed invention in claim 1 apply for these claims as well. Additionally, claims 4-8 claim other additional combinations of features not suggested by the reference. Consequently, it is respectfully urged that the rejection of claims 4-8 have been overcome.

Therefore, the rejection of claims 1, 4-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 has been overcome.

## III.    35 U.S.C. § 103, Obviousness

The examiner has rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Jones et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0188841 (Jones) in view of Levy et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0033844 (Levy). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Since claim 6 depends from claim 1 and since claim 1 now includes elements not taught or suggested by either Jones or Levy, either individually or in combination, claim 6 is not rendered obvious by Jones in view of Levy.

Therefore, the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome.

## IV.    Conclusion

Claims 21-34 have been added. Claims 21 and 22 depend from claim 1 and therefore contain an element not taught or suggested by Jones or Levy individually or in combination. Therefore, the newly added claims 21 and 22 are patentable over Jones and Levy. Claims 23, 27, and 31 include the limitation of "wherein at least one of the digital assets in the list of digital assets includes an asset characteristic, to the requesting local knowledge management server." This limitation is similar to that found in claim 1 which is not taught or suggested by either Jones or Levy. Thus, claims 23, 27, and 31 are not anticipated by Jones or Levy and are not rendered obvious by Jones in view of Levy. Furthermore, claims 24-26, 28-30, and 32-34 depend from claims 23, 27, and 31

respectively. Thus, claims 24-26, 28-30, and 32-34 are not anticipated or rendered obvious by Jones and Levy.

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over Jones et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0188841 and Levy et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0033844 and is now in condition for allowance.

The examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: June 30, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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# APPENDIX A

A redacted version of the paragraph that replaces the paragraph that begins on page 1 at line 7 is as follows:

The present application is related to co-pending, commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application Serial no. [_____ (Attorney Docket No. LEDS.00119)] 10/736,346 entitled "Nomadic Digital Asset Retrieval System" filed even date herewith. The content of the cross referenced co-pending application is hereby incorporated herein by reference for all purposes.

# APPENDIX B

A redacted version of the amended claims follows:

1 (Once Amended).    A system for managing digital assets in a distributed data processing system, the system comprising:

a network of data processing systems;

a plurality of local knowledge management servers connected to the network wherein each of the plurality of local knowledge management servers is connected to and maintains a local digital asset repository;

a central knowledge management server; and

a central registry of digital assets; wherein

each of the plurality of local knowledge management servers sends location and identifying information concerning a digital asset to the central knowledge management server whenever a digital asset is saved to a local digital asset repository corresponding to an appropriate one of the plurality of knowledge management servers; [and]

each of the plurality of local knowledge management servers is configured to forward requests for digital assets received from a user to the central knowledge management server;

the central knowledge management server stores the location and identifying information concerning the digital asset in the central registry of digital assets[.] ; and

the central knowledge management server, in response to a request for an asset from the user, provides an asset list comprising at least one digital asset that has criteria matching criteria specified by the user and wherein at least one of the digital assets in the asset list includes an asset characteristic.